

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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P 303116Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4388

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTO DOMINGO 3379

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CASC, DR

SUBJECT: QUESTIONING AT AIRPORT OF LAWYER CONCERNED WITH CASE
OF JAILED PUERTO RICANS

1. NEW YORK LAWYER, DAVID SCRIBNER, ONE OF THE OUTSIDE ATTORNEYS HELPING IN THE DEFENSE OF THE 3 JAILED PUERTO RICANS, WAS BRIEFLY HELD ON HIS ARRIVAL MORNING JULY 29 AT THE AIRPORT AT SANTO DOMINGO. HE HAD ARRIVED FROM PUERTO RICO TOGETHER WITH CARMEN SAMPSON, SISTER OF ONE OF THE JAILED PUERTO RICANS, AND JULIETA MUNOZ, A REPORTER OF THE SAN JUAN NEWSPAPER, CLARIDAD. WHEN THE SO CAME TO THE IMMIGRATION COUNTER, SCRIBNER WAS ASKED TO WAIT WHILE THE OTHERS PASSED THROUGH, AND AFTER A WHILE, HE WAS QUESTIONED BY AN IMMIGRATION OFFICER. MISS SAMPSON THEREUPON CALLED THE CONSUL AND HE AND THE CONSUL GENERAL PROMPTLY PROCEEDED TO THE AIRPORT TO DETERMINE THE CIRCUMSTANCES. BY THE TIME THE CONSULAR OFFICERS ARRIVED, SCRIBNER HAD BEEN RELEASED.

2. SCRIBNER TOLD THE CONSULAR OFFICERS THAT HE HAD BEEN QUESTIONED BY A DOMINICAN IMMIGRATION OFFICER ABOUT PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT. SUBSEQUENTLY A CONSULAR OFFICER INQUIRED OF AN IMMIGRATION SUPERVISOR AT THE AIRPORT ABOUT THE MATTER AND WAS TOLD THAT IT HAD BEEN A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

3. SCRIBNER TOLD THE CONSULAR OFFICERS HE WISHED TO SEE THE JAILED PUERTO RICANS TOGETHER WITH THEIR DOMINICAN ATTORNEYS. HE WAS ADVISED THAT THIS COULD BE ARRANGED IF THE DOMINICAN ATTORNEYS SO

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REQUESTED. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE CONSULAR OFFICERS WERE INFORMED

THAT SUCH MEETING HAD BEEN ARRANGED THROUGH THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE AND TOOK PLACE THE SAME AFTERNOON. THE CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE ALSO BEEN ADVISED BY THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE THAT SCRIBNER AND MISS SAMPSON SAW THE PRISONERS TODAY.

4. AT A LUNCHEON JULY 29, POLICE CHIEF NEIT NIVAR, IN REPLY TO THE DCM'S QUERY, STATED HE WAS UNAWARE OF THE QUESTIONING OF SCRIBNER AT THE AIRPORT. HE ASKED SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE ARMED

FORCES, GENERAL BEAUCHAMP, WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT, WHETHER HE KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT IT. BEAUCHAMP SAID HE DIDN'T BUT WOULD PROMPTLY INVESTIGATE. NIVAR THEREUPON REMARKED TO BEAUCHAMP THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT NOT TO GIVE THOSE SEEKING TO EXPLOIT THE CASE OF THE 3 PUERTO RICANS ANY CAUSE FOR CHARGING THE DOMINICAN GOVT WITH IMPROPRIETY. THE DCM AGREED THAT THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA.

5. THE PROSECUTOR HAS ADVISED THAT THE TRIAL IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT 9:30 A.M. JULY 31, AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED THE SAME DAY.
HURWITCH

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